

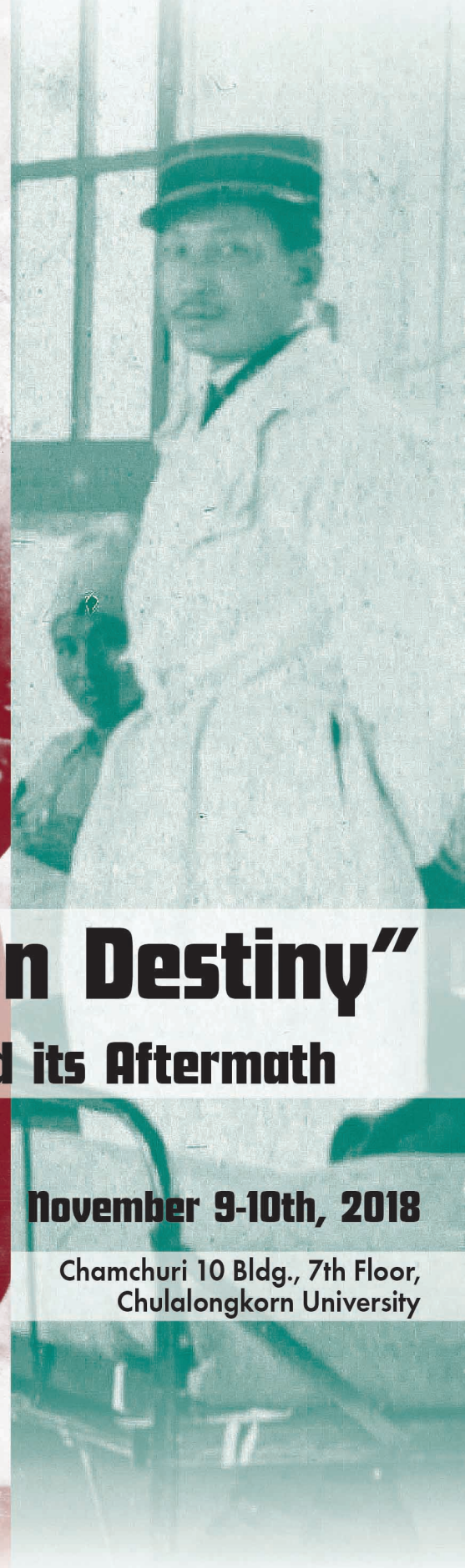
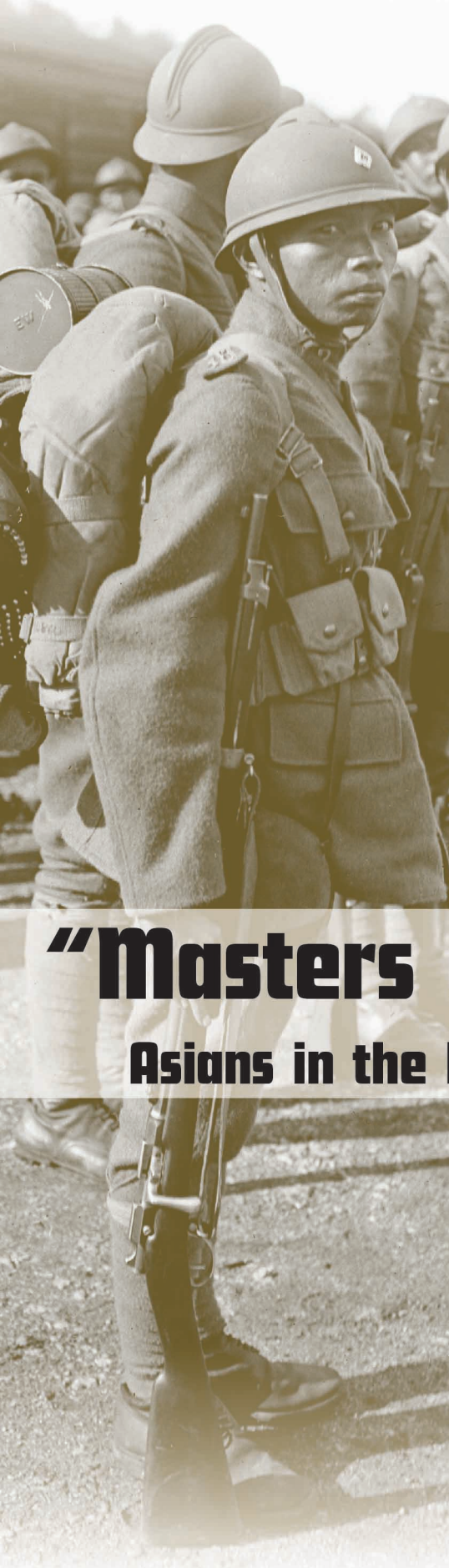


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Ambassade de France à Bangkok



Deutsche Botschaft  
Bangkok



# “Masters of Their Own Destiny”

## Asians in the First World War and its Aftermath

**November 9-10th, 2018**

Chamchuri 10 Bldg., 7th Floor,  
Chulalongkorn University



An International Conference and a Photography Exhibition  
organized by the History Department, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University  
and the Institute of Research on Contemporary Southeast Asia (Irasec - CNRS)



## **“Masters of Their Own Destiny”: The Asians in the First World War and its Aftermath**

**An International Conference and a Photography Exhibition organized by  
the History Department, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University and  
the Institute of Research on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC – CNRS)  
9-10 November 2018**

**Organizers:** Bhawan Ruangsilp (History Department, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)  
Claire Thi Liên Trân (Institute of Research on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC  
– CNRS, Bangkok)

**Partners:** Center of European Studies (CES), Chulalongkorn University, Mission Centenaire  
1914-18, The Embassy of France, Bangkok, The Embassy of Germany, Bangkok,  
Alliance française, Etablissement de Communication et de Production Audiovisuelle de  
la Défense (ECPAD), Service Historique de la Défense, La Contemporaine, La Librairie  
du Siam ; River Books

### **Friday, November 9**

**OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE** (Venue: Ground Floor, Chamchuri 10 Bldg.)

08:00-08:30 **Registration and coffee**

08:30-10:00 **Welcome speeches by representatives from Irasec and Chulalongkorn  
University, the designated Ambassador of France Jacques Lapouge and  
the designated Ambassador of Germany Georg Schmidt  
Opening Ceremony for Photography Exhibition**

10:00 11:00 **Keynote speaker Xu Guoqi, The University of Hong Kong**  
*The Great War as Asia's Shared history (45')* and Q/A (15')

**CONFERENCE** (Venue: Chamchuri 10 Bldg.)

### **Topic 1: Asian Soldiers, Workers and Intelligentsia in Europe: Experiences of Mobility**

11:00-12:30 **Session 1: Asian soldiers on the European front**

Salma Wasi (Jawaharlal Nehru Univ) *Fuel and WWI: Cooking experience of  
Indian Troops*

Satarupa Lahiri (Jawaharlal Nehru Univ) *Between Fealty and Freedom: The  
Deserters of the Indian Army in WWI*

Bhawan Ruangsilp (Chulalongkorn Univ) *National Pride and Identity: Siamese  
Expeditionary Force in the Great War*

Discussant Stefan Hell (30')

14:00-15:50 **Session 2: Asian workers in Europe**

Mireille Le Van Ho (Honorary Chief Librarian, Paris) *The discovery of “a World of possibilities”: Daily life, hopes and disillusion of Vietnamese during WWI according to the Postal Censorship Service*

Olga V. Alexeeva (University of Quebec in Montreal), *War experiences of Chinese Labourers in Russia, 1914-1921: A Legacy of Pain and Pride*

Padej Kumlertsakul (The National archives UK) *Chinese labor corps in the Western Front*

Joy L.K. Pachau (J Nehru Univ) *Notes from the Lushai Hills (Northeast India) The Great War and the Labour Corps*

Discussant Xu Guoqi (The University of Hong Kong) (30')

15:50-16:20 Coffee Break

16:20-17:50 **Session 3: Asian leaders and diplomats**

Thep Boontanondha (Waseda University) *The First World war and the making of King Vajiravudh image as a Jomtub of the Nation*

Stefan Hell (independent scholar) *Adaptation and self-assertion: Prince Charoon and Thai-Western relations during and after World War I*

Jan Schmidt (KU Leuven), *A World War Closely Studied – Japanese Academics, Bureaucrats and Military Officers in Europe*

Discussant Wasana Wongsurawat (Chulalongkorn Univ) (30')

## **Saturday, November 10**

### **Topic 2: Asian Individuals and the Circulation of New Ideas, Knowledge and Technics**

09:00-10:30 **Session 4 : Asian activists and the making of new political networks**

Din Buadaeng (University Paris Diderot) *The Comrades of War Association: Political networks and the 1932 Siamese Revolution*

Radhika Singha (Jawaharlal Nehru Univ) *The shape of home-coming: Indian soldiers and labourers in global conflict, 1914-21*

Wasana Wongsurawat (Chulalongkorn Univ) *King Vajiravudh and The May Fourth Movement: resonance of Asian participation in the Great War*

Alexandre Barthel (Chulalongkorn Univ) *The First World War and the development of Chinese political activities in Siam*

Discussant Claire Tran (Irasec) (30')

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 **Session 5: The making of new Elite and the Emergence of new Professions**

Claire Tran (Irasec), *Nguyễn Xuân Mai, A Vietnamese medical doctor on the Front: Hopes of a volunteer and Disillusions of a veteran*

Boonpisit Srihong (Chulalongkorn Univ) *The Siamese Pilots of the Purple Jasmine Wing*

Discussant Bhawan Ruangsilp (Chulalongkorn Univ) (30')

**Topic 3: Digital Ressources and Visual Sources on World War One**

(Venue: Irasec - Alliance française Bangkok)

15 00 17:30 Oliver Janz (Freie Universität Berlin): *1914-1918-online. A Global Publication Project in the Digital Age*

**Film Screening on the Siamese expeditionary force during the First World War**  
(ECPAD archives)

Debate with Denis Maréchal (Institut National d'Audiovisuel Ina, Paris), Stefan Hell (independent researcher) and Tul Israngura na Ayudhya (Chulalongkorn Univ)

Discussant: Claire Tran (Irasec)

**CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE**

17:30 –18:00 **Exhibition of the drawings of Eugène Burnand: Portraits of Asians engaged in World War One**, introduced by François Doré (Librairie du Siam)

18:00 – 19:00 **Cocktail by the French Embassy with the designated Ambassador of France Jacques Lapouge**